

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 11 and 15 to read as follows:

Sub B17  
A1  
1. (Amended) A near field light generating device, comprising:  
a light emitting element that emits light from its exit surface; and  
a thin film disposed on the exit surface,  
wherein the thin film is adapted for transmitting light when the thin film is irradiated with  
light from said light emitting element and for blocking light when the thin film is not irradiated  
with light from said light emitting element.

A2  
3. (Amended) A near field light generating device according to Claim 1, wherein said  
thin film returns to a crystalline state from an amorphous state when the light emission is  
stopped.

A3  
7. (Amended) A near field light generating device according to Claim 1, further  
comprising a heat diffusion preventing film between the light exit surface and the thin film.

Sub B27  
A4  
9. (Amended) A near field light generating device, comprising:  
a light emitting element that emits light from its exit surface; and  
a thin film disposed on the exit surface,  
wherein the thin film is adapted to transmit light when the thin film is heated and to block  
light when the thin film is not heated.

A5  
11. (Amended) A near field light generating device according to Claim 9, wherein said  
thin film returns to a crystalline state from an amorphous state when the light emission is  
stopped.

A6  
15. (Amendment) A near field light generating device according to Claim 9, further  
comprising a heat diffusion preventing film between the light exit surface and the thin film.